

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY NASSAU IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 042729

FOR THE AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:AMGT, BF, PGEN, XM

SUBJECT: GOALS AND OBJECTIVES - BAHAMAS - SUMMARY OF
IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

REF: (A) NASSAU 320 (B) STATE 34007

1. WE REGRET ANY CONFUSION AND SURPRISE WHICH WAS
OCCASIONED BY RECEIPT OF REVISED "GOALS AND OBJECTIVES"
(REF A). AS EXPLAINED MOST RECENTLY IN STATE 34007,
REVISED GOALS AND OBJECTIVES PAPERS REFLECT INTER-AGENCY
REVIEW AS WELL AS POST COMMENTS. IN THE REVIEW PROCESS
SOME PAPERS, INCLUDING YOURS, WERE "EXPANDED TO ASSURE
COVERAGE OF ALL MAJOR PROGRAM ELEMENTS." (PARA 1, REFTEL B)

2. INTER-AGENCY DELIBERATION DETERMINED THAT PROMOTION OF
U.S. SECURITY INTERESTS IN LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN

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IS IMPORTANT OBJECTIVE. THIS IS TRUE EVEN WHERE THERE IS
ONLY MINIMAL MILITARY ESTABLISHMENT IN HOST COUNTRY, AS
IS CASE WITH THE BAHAMAS AND ITS EMBRYONIC DEFENSE FORCE.
WE AGREE, HOWEVER, THAT GIVEN CIRCUMSTANCES IN BAHAMAS, IT
MIGHT BE MORE APPROPRIATE TO MODIFY GOAL 1 TO READ AS
FOLLOWS: "PROMOTE U.S. SECURITY INTERESTS AND MAINTAIN
RELATIONSHIPS SUPPORTIVE OF THE BROAD RANGE OF U.S. GOALS

AND OBJECTIVES."

3. REFERENCES IN GOALS III-C AND III-D TO ASSISTANCE TO U.S. FIRMS AND PROMOTION OF TRADE AND INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES WERE NOT MEANT TO DENIGRATE EMBASSY'S EFFORTS OR OVERLOOK ALREADY LARGE U.S. SHARE OF BAHAMIAN MARKET; HOWEVER, AS PART OF INTER-AGENCY EFFORT TO INCLUDE ALL PROGRAM ELEMENTS IN THE PAPER, IT WAS AGREED TO ADD THESE SECTIONS AT SUGGESTION OF ARA, OPIC, AND THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (SEE ALSO PARA. 1, REFTEL B).

4. INCLUSION OF OBJECTIVES RELATING TO BAHAMIAN MEMBERSHIP IN THE OAS AND BAHAMIAN PARTICIPATION IN REGIONAL AFFAIRS WERE ADDED BECAUSE INTER-AGENCY REVIEW DETERMINED IT WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO INTER-AMERICAN COOPERATION WHERE THE BAHAMAS TO PARTICIPATE MORE FULLY IN HEMISPHERIC AFFAIRS; IT WAS ALSO SUGGESTED THAT SURINAM, ANOTHER NON-OAS MEMBER, PARTICIPATE MORE FULLY IN HEMISPHERIC AFFAIRS. IN CASE OF BAHAMAS WE RECOGNIZE THAT THERE IS RELUCTANCE AND OPPOSITION TO JOINING THE OAS. IN DISCUSSING "... ISSUES WHICH AFFECT ACHIEVEMENT OF THE OBJECTIVES" (PARA 3, REFTEL B) THIS ATTITUDE OF BAHAMIANS SHOULD BE MENTIONED AS IMPEDIMENT TO ACHIEVEMENT OF GOAL.

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5. SIMILARLY, INTER-AGENCY REVIEW DETERMINED THAT IT WOULD BENEFIT OUR OVERALL REGIONAL OBJECTIVES WERE ENGLISH-SPEAKING CARIBBEAN STATES TO ESTABLISH RELATIONSHIPS WITH HAITI AND THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC. IN THIS WAY WE HOPE TO ADDRESS THE PROBLEMS CAUSED BY THE CREATION OF MINI-STATES IN THE CARIBBEAN SUB-REGION AS WELL AS FORGE A BASIS ON WHICH SUB-REGIONAL COOPERATION CAN GROW. IN THIS REGARD, ILLEGAL HAITIAN IMMIGRATION TO THE BAHAMAS CONSTITUTES PROBLEM ON WHICH AN ESTABLISHED PATTERN OF INTERCHANGE MIGHT HAVE AMELIORATING IMPACT. VANCE

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